

Make Your Own Busse Building!



Designer Paul Busse's love of gardening led him to develop his own techniques and creative use of natural materials to craft the whimsical landscapes and buildings seen at the U.S. Botanic Garden during the holidays. Follow the directions below and you can be just like Mr. Busse, creating your own imaginative building out of natural materials!

Materials Needed:

- Pencil
- Paper
- Small milk carton or juice box, cleaned and dried
- Glue
- Natural items (e.g. leaves, twigs, acorns, seeds, etc.) found in your yard

Instructions:

1. Using your pencil and paper, draw a square or rectangle that resembles the shape of your milk carton/juice box. Sketch a design for your Busse building in that space.
2. Using your sketch as a guide, go out into your yard. Find natural items that will help you make your design possible. Mr. Busse likes to use leaves for roof tops and siding, twigs for door and window frames and acorns for little details like light fixtures or chimney caps. You can also explore your kitchen for Busse favorites like cinnamon sticks and peppercorns. Just be sure to use your eyes before you use your hands – sometimes nature can be thorny!
3. Following your sketch, glue your natural items to your milk carton/juice box. (You may want to cut out your windows before you begin, or just draw them on a separate sheet of paper and glue them to the side of your Busse building.)
4. Let the glue dry. Congratulations on making your very own Busse building!

